
Title: Birds of Britannia

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The WREN is a
tiny insect-eating
bird with a loud voice.

The cheerful trills
of Wrens are
extraordinarily
varied and melodious.

The SWALLOW
is easily recognized
by its forked tail.
Swallows catch
insects in flight, and
have squeaky,
twittering songs.

The WARBLER is
an exceptional singer,
whose extensive
songs combine the
best qualities of
Wrens and Swallows.

The NUTHATCH
climbs down trees
head first, searching
for insects in the
bark. It sings a
repetitive series of
notes with a nasal
tone quality.

The agile
CHICKADEE has a
buzzy
"chick-a-dee-dee"
call, from which its
name is derived. Its
song is a series of
whistled notes.

The THRUSH is a
brown bird with a
spotted breast, which
eats worms and
snails, and has a
beautiful singing
voice. Thrushes use
a stone as an anvil to
smash the shells of
snails.

The little
NIGHTINGALE is

also known for its
beautiful song, which
it sings even at night.

The STARLING
is a small dark bird
with a yellow bill and
a squeaky,
high-pitched song.
Starlings can mimic
the sounds of other
birds.

The SKYLARK
sings a series of
high-pitched
melodious trills in
flight.

The FINCH is a
small seed-eating bird
with a conical beak
and a musical,
warbling song.

The CROSSBILL
is a kind of Finch
with a strange
crossed bill, which it
uses to extract seeds
from pine cones.

The CANARY is a
kind of Finch that is
often kept as a pet.
Miners would often
take Canaries
underground with
them, to warn them
of the presence of
hazardous vapors in
the air.

The SPARROW
weaves a nest of
grass, and has an
unmusical chirp for a
voice.

The TOWHEE is a
kind of Sparrow that
continually reminds
listeners to drink
their tea.

The SHRIKE is a
gray bird with a
hooked bill. Shrikes
have the habit of
impaling their prey
on thorns.

The
WOODPECKER has a
pointed beak that is
suitable for pecking at
wood to get at the

insects inside.

The
KINGFISHER dives
for fish, which it
catches with its long,
pointed beak.

The TERN
migrates over great
distances, from one
end of Britannia to
the other each year.
Terns dive from the
air to catch fish.

The PLOVER is a
bird that distracts
predators by
pretending to have a
broken wing.

The LAPWING is
a kind of Plover that
has a long black crest.

The HAWK is a
predator that feeds on
small birds, mice,
squirrels, and other
small animals. Small
hawks are known as
Kites.

The DOVE is a
seed-eating bird with
a peaceful reputation.

Doves have a
low-pitched cooing
song.

The PARROT is a
brightly colored bird
with a hooked bill,
favored as a
companion by pirates.

Parrots can be
taught to imitate the
human voice.

The CUCKOO is a
devious bird that lays
eggs in the nests of
Warblers and other
small birds. Cuckoos
have the uncanny
ability to keep track
of time, singing once
at the beginning of
each hour.

The
ROADRUNNER is
an unusual bird with
a long tail, which
runs swiftly along
the ground hunting

for lizards and
snakes.

The SWIFT is a
very agile bird that
spends nearly its
entire life in the air.
With their mouths
wide open, Swifts
capture insects in
mid-flight.

The
HUMMINGBIRD is a
cross between a
Swift and a Fairy.
These tiny, brightly
colored birds hover
magically near
flowers, and live on
the nectar they
provide.

The OWL is a
reputedly wise bird
that is active at night,
unlike most birds.
Owls have excellent
night vision and
low-pitched hooting
calls. Their wings
are silent in flight.

The
GOATSUCKER is a
strange owl-like bird
that is thought to live
on the milk of goats.
These mysterious
birds make jarring
sounds at night, for
which reason they
are also called
Nightjars.

The DUCK is a
bird that swims more
often than it flies,
and has a nasal voice
that is described as a
"quack".

The SWAN is a
kind of long-necked
Duck that is all white.

Swans are usually
voiceless, but they
are said to have an
extraordinarily
beautiful song.